

EC-2035. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, revised performance goals and corporate management strategies for the Department's fiscal year 1999 Performance Plan; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2036. A communication from the Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Trawling in Steller Sea Lion Critical Habitat in the Central Aleutian District of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands" (I.D. 021299A) received on February 22, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2037. A communication from the Chairman of the Surface Transportation Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulations for the Publication, Posting and Filing of Tariffs for the Transportation of Property by or with a Water Carrier in the Noncontiguous Domestic Trade" received on February 11, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2038. A communication from the Chairman of the Surface Transportation Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulations Governing Fees for Services Performed in Connection With Licensing and Related Services—1999 Update" received on February 17, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2039. A communication from the Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Taking of Marine Mammals Incidental to Commercial Fishing Operations; Pacific Offshore Cetacean Take Reduction Plan Regulations; Technical Amendment" (RIN0648-A184) received on March 1, 1999; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2040. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions and Clarifications to the Export Administration Regulations; Commerce Control List" (RIN0694-AB77) received on February 25, 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2041. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Risk-Based Capital Standards: Construction Loans on Presold Residential Properties; Junior Liens on 1- to 4-Family Residential Properties; and Investments in Mutual Funds. Leverage Capital Standards: Tier 1 Leverage Ratio" (Docket R-0947) received on February 25, 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2042. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Risk-Based Capital Standards: Construction Loans on Presold Residential Properties; Junior Liens on 1- to 4-Family Residential Properties; and Investment in Mutual Funds" (Docket R-0948) received on February 25, 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2043. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's Monetary Policy Report dated February 23, 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2044. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of the Securities and Ex-

change Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Publication or Submission of Quotations Without Specified Information" received on March 1, 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2045. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Registration of Securities on Form S-8" (RIN3235-AG94) received on March 1, 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2046. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revision of Rule 504 of Regulation D, the 'Seed Capital' Exemption" (RIN3235-AH35) received on March 1, 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2047. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Rule 701—Exempt Offerings Pursuant to Compensatory Arrangements" (RIN3235-AH21) received on March 1, 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2048. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Frequently Asked Questions About the Statement of the Commission Regarding Disclosure of the Year 2000 Issues and Consequences to Public Companies"; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2049. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Exemption of the Securities of the Kingdom of Belgium under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 for Purposes of Trading Futures Contracts on Those Securities" (RIN3235-AH46) received on March 1, 1999; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2050. A communication from the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation to extend the Corporation's operating authority to September 30, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-19. A resolution adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Monmouth, New Jersey, relative to Veterans' health care; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

POM-20. A resolution adopted by the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association relative to animal health; to the Committee on Finance.

POM-21. A resolution adopted by the Board of Selectmen, New Ashford, Massachusetts, relative to human rights in East Timor; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. STEVENS, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 544. An original bill making emergency supplemental appropriations and rescissions for recovery from natural disasters, and for-

eign assistance, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-8).

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 249. A bill to provide funding for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, to reauthorize the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. ROBERTS (for himself, Mr. KERREY, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. BURNS, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. HARKIN, and Mr. DORGAN):

S. 529. A bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to improve crop insurance coverage, to make structural changes to the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation and the Risk Management Agency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. GORTON (for himself and Mr. SMITH of Oregon):

S. 530. A bill to amend the Act commonly known as the "Export Apple and Pear Act" to limit the applicability of that Act to apples; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. ABRAHAM (for himself, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 531. A bill to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to Rosa Parks in recognition of her contributions to the Nation; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 532. A bill to provide increased funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund and Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Programs, to resume the funding of the State grants program of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and to provide for the acquisition and development of conservation and recreation facilities and programs in urban areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. ROBB (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 533. A bill to amend the Solid Waste Disposal Act to authorize local governments and Governors to restrict receipt of out-of-State municipal solid waste, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. TORRICELLI:

S. 534. A bill to expand the powers of the Secretary of the Treasury to regulate the manufacture, distribution, and sale of firearms and ammunition, and to expand the jurisdiction of the Secretary to include firearm products and nonpowder firearms; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. ROBB):

S. 535. A bill to amend section 49106(c)(6) of title 49, United States Code, to remove a limitation on certain funding; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WARNER:

S. 536. A bill entitled the "Wendell H. Ford National Air Transportation System Improvement Act of 1999"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LUGAR:

S. 537. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to adjust the exemption

amounts used to calculate the individual alternative minimum tax for inflation since 1993; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ASHCROFT:

S. 538. A bill to provide for violent and repeat juvenile offender accountability, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BROWNBACK:

S. 539. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the maximum taxable income for the 15 percent rate bracket, to replace the Consumer Price Index with the national average wage index for purposes of cost-of-living adjustments, to lessen the impact of the noncorporate alternative minimum tax, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. KERRY, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. INOUE, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. KERREY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. REID, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BRYAN, and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 540. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that housing assistance provided under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 be treated for purposes of the low-income housing credit in the same manner as comparable assistance; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. 541. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make certain changes related to payments for graduate medical education under the medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ABRAHAM (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. KERREY, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. GORTON, Mr. BURNS, and Mr. MCCONNELL):

S. 542. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the deduction for computer donations to schools and allow a tax credit for donated computers; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Mr. FRIST, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. HAGEL, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. HUTCHINSON):

S. 543. A bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of genetic information with respect to health insurance; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. STEVENS:

S. 544. An original bill making emergency supplemental appropriations and rescissions for recovery from natural disasters, and foreign assistance, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. HOLLINGS (for himself and Mr. ROCKEFELLER) (by request):

S. 545. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, and 2004, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DORGAN:

S. 546. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction for 100 percent of the health insurance costs of self-employed individuals; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CHAFEE (for himself, Mr. MACK, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. REID, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BIDEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. VOINOVICH):

S. 547. A bill to authorize the President to enter into agreements to provide regulatory

credit for voluntary early action to mitigate potential environmental impacts from greenhouse gas emissions; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. DEWINE:

S. 548. A bill to establish the Fallen Timbers Battlefield and Fort Miamis National Historical Site in the State of Ohio; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MCCAIN:

S. 549. A bill to redesignate the Coronado National Forest in honor of Morris K. Udall, a former Member of the House of Representatives; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. GORTON:

S. 550. A bill to provide for the collection of certain State taxes from an individual who is who is not a member of an Indian tribe; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 551. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage school construction and rehabilitation through the creation of a new class of bond, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. MACK, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. HELMS, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. ROBB, and Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire):

S. Res. 57. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the human rights situation in Cuba; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. LOTT (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE):

S. Res. 58. A resolution relating to the retirement of Barry J. Wolk; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. TORRICELLI, and Mr. GRAMS):

S. Con. Res. 14. A concurrent resolution congratulating the state of Qatar and its citizens for their commitment to democratic ideals and women's suffrage on the occasion of Qatar's historic elections of a central municipal council on March 8, 1999; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KYL, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. INOUE, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. DODD, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. KOHL, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. ALLARD, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. KERREY, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. REID, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. MOYNIHAN, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BYRD, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. TORRICELLI, and Mr. GRAMS):

S. Con. Res. 15. A concurrent resolution honoring Morris King Udall, former United States Representative from Arizona, and extending the condolences of the Congress on his death; considered and agreed to.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. ROBERTS (for himself, Mr. KERREY, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. BURNS, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. CONRAD, and Mr. BAUCUS):

S. 529. A bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to improve crop insurance coverage, to make structural changes to the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation and the Risk Management Agency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

CROP INSURANCE FOR THE 21ST CENTURY ACT

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I rise today, along with my colleague, Mr. KERREY of Nebraska, to introduce a bill that we call the Crop Insurance for the 21st Century Act. We believe this bill represents an important step in improving the Federal Crop Insurance Program, and in creating greater access to the risk management tools that our farmers and ranchers simply must have.

Senator KERREY and I, and many others who are privileged to represent the agriculture community, have long discussed the need to address reforms to the Crop Insurance Program. However, the necessary demands from the agriculture community and the Congress to successfully reform this program, in my personal opinion at least, did not reach a crescendo until last fall when we approved something called the omnibus appropriations bill, and that contained approximately \$6 billion in disaster assistance for our farmers and ranchers.

I am sure, while Republicans and Democrats and individual agricultural groups were unable to agree on the necessary size and scope of the disaster package, one thing became abundantly clear to all involved—if we had a Crop Insurance Program that worked, without question, the situation would not have been so serious.

This has been a longstanding effort. I can remember well, back in 1978, when I was a staff member in the House of Representatives to my predecessor, that was when the Crop Insurance Program was first established. It has been 20 years, and we still have an obligation to reform the program and make sure that it works for all regions, all farmers, all commodities.

In response to the demands for the improved risk management tools, Senator KERREY and I committed to pursuing major crop insurance reforms in this Congress. To aid us in this task, last November we contacted all of the major farm organizations and all of the commodity groups, all of the crop insurance companies, all of the agricultural lending groups, and requested their guidance on these issues. We were listening. We wanted to find out their advice in regard to what do we need to pay attention to, what is the most serious issue that we need to address in the Crop Insurance Program. We received feedback from over 20 of these major organizations.